

[REDACTED] - [REDACTED] -
04/24/2016

1 SGT. GARY WATTS: Today's date is 4/24/2016.
2 Sergeant Gary Watts, 594, Homicide Division. With
3 me is, uh, Lieutenant--help me, Lieutenant Bill
4 Braconi. Um, case number [REDACTED]. I'm at, um,
5 Fire Station--

6 [REDACTED]: [REDACTED].

7 SGT. WATTS: Seven with, uh, [REDACTED]

8 [REDACTED]--

9 [REDACTED]: [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]
10 [REDACTED].

11 SGT. WATTS: Thanks, [REDACTED]. And we're here
12 to talk about the Officer Involved Shooting at the
13 400 block of Shotwell on, uh, April 7th, 2016
14 around 10:00 hours. So, [REDACTED], just if you can
15 tell me in your own words what you saw and I'll
16 just--

17 [REDACTED]: Sure.

18 SGT. WATTS: You know, ask you some
19 questions afterwards.

20 [REDACTED]: Yeah. So right, uh,
21 prior to this shooting, we were, uh, all standing
22 out front of the, uh, apparatus bays here out in
23 the street doing our, uh, daily checks of the
24 apparatus and saws and stuff. And we were just
25 finishing up. And, uh, we heard the gunshots and

1 you could tell they were--right around the corner.
2 So I, uh, ran over to the rig, grabbed my portable
3 radio, made my way up to Shotwell. Uh, there was a
4 white boxy van delivery type truck in the
5 intersection of 19th and Shotwell, trying to go
6 northbound onto, uh, Shotwell. And, uh, I
7 approached the backside of that vehicle and I was
8 using that as a--a, uh, a screen, if you--if you
9 will. Uh, saw what was going on. Tapped on the
10 side of the box van, told him to, uh, shoo away and
11 he did. Uh, yelled down, got the officers'
12 attention. I said, "Hey, can we come in? What's
13 going on?" They waved me down. Saw one male
14 Hispanic, uh, victim laying on the ground. His
15 head was towards the curb. Um. There was a very
16 large knife that we all saw on the news and stuff
17 that was laying right next to him very close
18 proximity, maybe three feet or less. Uh. Radio-ed
19 into Dispatch that this was a, uh, Officer Involved
20 Shooting. We have one victim down. Um. Requested
21 the appropriate resources that we would need on
22 this incident. And then, uh, we started treating,
23 uh, the patient.

24 SGT. WATTS: Okay. Um. Can I ask you--his-
25 -which direction was his head, sort of pointing at

04/24/2016

1 and which direction were his feet pointing at?
2 [REDACTED]: Uh, his--he was
3 laying prone.
4 SGT. WATTS: On his back?
5 [REDACTED]: On his back. His
6 feet would be facing the [REDACTED] building.
7 SGT. WATTS: Okay.
8 [REDACTED]: So his feet would be
9 facing to the east. His head, uh, was very close
10 to the gutter, which would be to the south of the
11 building. I'm sorry, to the west. Excuse me.
12 SGT. WATTS: Okay. Um. Do you recall where
13 you saw it--the injuries to the, uh, to the
14 Hispanic man?
15 [REDACTED]: Uh, he had a few, uh,
16 entry wounds--want to say to the left arm.
17 SGT. WATTS: Okay.
18 [REDACTED]: Probably two or
19 three.
20 SGT. WATTS: Yeah.
21 [REDACTED]: And then obviously he
22 had, uh, a fatal to the head.
23 SGT. WATTS: Do you know where?
24 [REDACTED]: I don't remember
25 where it came in but you could definitely see

04/24/2016

1 where--

2 SGT. WATTS: Okay. It exits.

3 [REDACTED]: It, uh, the exit was
4 and it--

5 SGT. WATTS: Okay. In the back of the head?

6 [REDACTED]: Yeah. Back of the
7 head and we had, you know, uh, skull and brain
8 matter--

9 SGT. WATTS: Right.

10 [REDACTED]: You know--

11 SGT. WATTS: So there's a--entry wounds to
12 the--to the left side of the body.

13 [REDACTED]: I believe.

14 SGT. WATTS: Okay. Um. Did you hear any
15 commands before the shooting? Did you hear any--

16 [REDACTED]: No. We couldn't--we
17 couldn't hear any, uh, verbal altercation or
18 anything like that, uh, between the suspect and,
19 uh, P.D.

20 SGT. WATTS: Okay. Um. Did you see any
21 other witnesses that may have been on the street
22 and was--uh, at any time, just before or right
23 after the shooting?

24 [REDACTED]: Uh. The guy in the
25 box van, uh, he definitely saw the whole thing.

1 And there may--may have been another female. Um.
2 In the area. I--I want to say she would have been
3 on the--northwest corner of, uh, 19th and Shotwell.
4 I don't recall.

5 SGT. WATTS: What about--because I know
6 there's a lot of homeless--or at the time there
7 were homeless--

8 [REDACTED]: Yeah.

9 SGT. WATTS: Tents, encampments.

10 [REDACTED]: Correct. Correct.

11 SGT. WATTS: Down on the east side of
12 Shotwell.

13 [REDACTED]: Correct.

14 SGT. WATTS: Did you see any homeless people
15 or any people close to the officers who were
16 involved in the Officer Involved Shooting?

17 [REDACTED]: Yeah, there was, uh,
18 like you were saying, that--we call it a
19 "encampment"--

20 SGT. WATTS: Hm-hmm.

21 [REDACTED]: On the, uh, east side
22 just north of this incident. There was several,
23 uh, people. Couple men, couple women. Uh, I
24 believe there was an officer that was giving them
25 commands to, uh, stay back.

[REDACTED] - [REDACTED] -
04/24/2016

1 SGT. WATTS: Okay. You know people sort of
2 how close or how far they were from the officers?
3 [REDACTED] I'm gonna say, uh, 20
4 to 30 feet.
5 SGT. WATTS: Okay. Okay.
6 [REDACTED]: Roughly.
7 SGT. WATTS: Okay. Um.
8 LT. BILL BRACONI: So, uh, you mentioned the
9 knife?
10 [REDACTED] Yes.
11 LT. BRACONI: Was it nearest his right side
12 or left side or do you recall?
13 [REDACTED] I believe it would
14 have been to his right. I'm pretty--certain.
15 LT. BRACONI: Okay.
16 [REDACTED] As it--as I
17 approached, uh, from 19th, his right hand--his
18 right side of the body was facing me and that's
19 where the knife was and then when I--
20 LT. BRACONI: Okay.
21 [REDACTED] Stepped over him,
22 that's where I remember seeing the gunshot wounds
23 in his left arm and to the back left area of his
24 head, I guess.
25 SGT. WATTS: Okay. And did the officers say

[REDACTED] - [REDACTED]
04/24/2016

1 anything to you at all?
2 [REDACTED]: No.
3 SGT. WATTS: Okay.
4 [REDACTED]: Uh, the one officer,
5 uh, I recognized. [REDACTED]. I asked him. I said,
6 "Hey, everything cool? You guys good?" "Yeah,
7 yeah, yeah, we're fine." I said, "Okay, cool."
8 SGT. WATTS: Okay.
9 [REDACTED] And then, uh, we just
10 went into our lifesaving measure.
11 SGT. WATTS: Sure.
12 [REDACTED] Um. Stripped his
13 clothes off. Put him on a backboard, put a collar
14 on him, CPR, the whole nine. And, uh, they
15 transported him to the hospital.
16 SGT. WATTS: Uh--the gunshot victim, had you
17 ever seen the guy at all before, in the area?
18 [REDACTED] Uh, he looks
19 familiar.
20 SGT. WATTS: Okay.
21 [REDACTED]: You know. We
22 definitely have our neighborhood homeless guys.
23 SGT. WATTS: Yeah.
24 [REDACTED]: And, uh, obviously
25 the frequent flyers that we call people that--

04/24/2016

1 SGT. WATTS: Yeah.
2 [REDACTED]: Call 911 often.
3 SGT. WATTS: Sure.
4 [REDACTED]: And, uh, I--I did
5 recognize him from the neighborhood.
6 SGT. WATTS: You ever [UNINTELLIGIBLE], too?
7 [REDACTED]: No.
8 LT. BRACONI: Does anybody in your firehouse,
9 uh, did anybody else in your firehouse recognize
10 him or--
11 [REDACTED]: Yeah.
12 LT. BRACONI: Know any--
13 [REDACTED]: Yeah, we all--
14 LT. BRACONI: You had all kind of recognized
15 him--
16 [REDACTED]: Yeah.
17 LT. BRACONI: In the area? Did anybody have
18 problems with him or--contact with him that you
19 know of?
20 [REDACTED]: Um. That's a good
21 question. I can go ask.
22 LT. BRACONI: Okay. If you do come up with
23 somebody that had some history with him, maybe pass
24 it on to Gary.
25 SGT. WATTS: Yeah.

[REDACTED] - [REDACTED] -
04/24/2016

1 [REDACTED]: Yeah, my officer that
2 I was talking to, the big, tall guy--
3 SGT. WATTS: Sure.
4 [REDACTED]: Uh, we can go ask
5 him.
6 SGT. WATTS: Yeah.
7 LT. BRACONI: Okay.
8 [REDACTED]: He and I work--uh,
9 quite a bit together--
10 LT. BRACONI: Okay.
11 [REDACTED]: And we, you know,
12 have similar experiences throughout our--our shift.
13 SGT. WATTS: Sure. Um. I think that's it.
14 I think.
15 [REDACTED]: Okay.
16 SGT. WATTS: Okay, yeah.
17 [REDACTED]: yeah, you know, we
18 saw the--the shotgun rounds, uh, on the ground and,
19 you know, all the bullet casings and we actually
20 saw--when we took him off of the ground and put him
21 onto the back board, you could actually see the
22 slug of, uh, the pistol.
23 SGT. WATTS: Okay. Yeah.
24 [REDACTED]: Which I've never seen
25 before. It was--

04/24/2016

1 SGT. WATTS: Hm.

2 [REDACTED]: Interesting.

3 SGT. WATTS: Okay, listen, um--oh! Just one

4 last thing.

5 [REDACTED]: Sure.

6 SGT. WATTS: Do you recall how many shots

7 you may have heard? And can you--distinct between-

8 -

9 [REDACTED]: I--I can--

10 SGT. WATTS: Shotgun and a pistol.

11 [REDACTED]: I can, uh, recognize

12 each sound. I do hunt a lot.

13 SGT. WATTS: Yeah.

14 [REDACTED]: I do a lot of duck

15 and pheasant hunting, which I use a shotgun. I do

16 a lot of trap and [ski/skeet] with the shotgun and

17 I do recreational shooting with rifles and pistols

18 so I could definitely tell. There was probably

19 three or four shotgun rounds. And, uh, five to

20 seven, uh, pistol rounds, roughly.

21 LT. BRACONI: So that the--the shotgun

22 rounds, and you referred to a shotgun, I think it

23 was the bean bag type shotgun.

24 [REDACTED]: The bean bag, yeah.

25 SGT. WATTS: Yeah.

04/24/2016

1 LT. BRACONI: And is that what you recognized
2 as the--
3 [REDACTED]: Yes.
4 LT. BRACONI: Did you see any of the bean
5 bags on the grounds?
6 [REDACTED]: Yes.
7 LT. BRACONI: Okay.
8 [REDACTED]: Yeah. And the empty,
9 uh, shotgun holds. SGT. WATTS: Sure.
10 LT. BRACONI: Yeah.
11 SGT. WATTS: Okay.
12 LT. BRACONI: And you--
13 [REDACTED]: I heard the--I heard
14 that go off first.
15 SGT. WATTS: Right.
16 [REDACTED]: And then I heard the-
17 -the pistol go off second. That's when I knew
18 something was--something was definitely up. Yeah.
19 And you know, to contradict some of the stuff in
20 the Mission local, uh, the local--
21 SGT. WATTS: That's the--
22 [REDACTED]: Mission feed.
23 SGT. WATTS: Online newspaper.
24 [REDACTED]: Online thing, yeah.
25 There was some discrepancies that I found in that

[REDACTED] - [REDACTED] -
04/24/2016

1 article. Uh, there was no cop car at 19th and
2 Shotwell. All of the officers came from 18th.

3 SGT. WATTS: Hm-hmm.

4 [REDACTED]: And approached down
5 so I--I know one of the ladies stated that and I
6 know that's not--

7 SGT. WATTS: Accurate.

8 [REDACTED]: Accurate.

9 SGT. WATTS: Yeah.

10 [REDACTED]: So.

11 SGT. WATTS: Anything else?

12 [REDACTED]: Nothing I can think
13 of right now.

14 SGT. WATTS: Okay. [UNINTELLIGIBLE], um,
15 interview finished.

16 LT. BRACONI: Good.

17 [REDACTED]: Okay.

18 LT. BRACONI: I got an ending time here of,
19 uh, 1:07, sounds about right?

20 SGT. WATTS: Okay.

21 [REDACTED]: Okay.

22 LT. BRACONI: Okay.

23 END OF DOCUMENT